

FROM FERTILE FLORIDA

What is Going on in the Land of the Grapefruit and Orange

Just at present orange shipments from Maitland are very heavy.

The recent cold wave did considerable damage to melons at Denaud.

The orange trees in the McIntosh section are putting on a very fine bloom.

Much damage was done to the truck at Pensacola by the cold weather recently. The thermometer dropped to 28.

Shipments of lettuce from Palmetto will be light for a while because of the damage done to the crop by the recent cold weather.

The unusually heavy crop of summer bloom oranges at South Lake Weir is ripening up now, and a large amount will soon be shipped.

John and Donald Bain of Iona, Lee county, are shipping tomatoes. J. W. Spencer and his sons of the same place are shipping eggplants and wax beans.

While Marion county growers have abandoned their orange groves and turned them into truck patches, others are buying orange trees and putting out new groves.

Strawberry shipments are very heavy from Starke now. Last year Bradford county received nearly \$500,000 for her berry crop, and many think this year will exceed last.

C. H. Mathis, the great cantaloupe grower of South Carolina, Colorado and Florida, has just returned from Colorado. He is going to plant more extensively than ever this season.

A. M. Kilder, a Baldwin, Ga., peach grower, was in Ocala last week investigating to see if the soil of Marion county wasn't good for peach growing. He is of the opinion that it is.—New York Produce News.

A NEW PLANK IN THE PROHIBITION ISSUE

An altogether new and novel issue may be injected into the prohibition campaign this spring in the form of a proposition to divorce whiskey from beer and permit the people to vote separately on the prohibition of their sale. The advocates of the proposition claim that most of the evil of intemperance comes from the drinking of whiskey, and that malt drinks, while comparatively harmless, have suffered in the public mind because sold along with whiskey. They claim that if whiskey were voted out of a community and the sale of light malt drinks permitted it would be the most practical step in the direction of true temperance that could be taken. It would furnish the people a mild drink and remove all incentive to send away for jugs and bottles of mean whiskey which has been the cause of so much lawlessness. They point to the fact that practically every officer in the army commends the canteen and declares that it is better for the soldiers to drink beer in the canteen than bad whiskey in the nearby saloons.

While there appears to be no concerted movement to this end there has recently been much discussion of the idea, and it has been suggested that an effort might be made to have the matter voted on in the primaries at the same time the state prohibition question will be submitted.—Dallas (Tex.) Democrat.

STRAWBERRIES AT PLANT CITY

From January 20 to January 25, inclusive, there were shipped from Plant City 178 refrigerators and about 25 open crates. These refrigerators and crates carried 445 bushels, or 14,240 quarts of berries. These berries were sold on the platform at an average of 16c a quart, which shows the net receipts for the berry growers of Plant City for the week to be \$2278.40. If the season lasts fifteen weeks, and it will last longer than that this year, and if the average should hold up to the record of last week, the berry crop alone will bring to the growers of Plant City according to our figures \$34,160.—Plant City Courier.

Prof. J. H. Brinson of Rollins College was a pleasant caller at the Reporter-Star office today. The editor and Prof. Brinson were old friends at Gainesville while the East Florida Seminary was in progress and his visits are always welcome. We are afraid Rollins will lose Prof. Brinson this year, as his old home county of Marion is calling him to take the position of county superintendent of public instruction.—Orlando Reporter-Star.

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